



# WHAT THE EDITOR SAYS

## Public Ledger

DAILY, EXCEPT SUNDAY, BY THE PUBLIC LEDGER CO.

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The dispatch received lately from Rome, giving the views which Mgr. SATOLLI was instructed, as papal delegate, to submit to the American archbishops as guides to their action in relation to Roman Catholic attendance at the public schools, is the fullest and clearest statement which has yet been made upon the subject. Making due allowance for expressions which seem strange to us, but are quite matter of course to Europeans, about "the ecclesiastical power and the civil power," and so forth, it is evident that the Pope fully recognizes and approves, not only the right but the duty of parents to have their children educated, whether the education is obtained in public schools or in so-called parochial schools. That is, the ban which the Roman Church has so long maintained, or has been supposed to maintain, against the public schools, is removed, and so far from prohibiting Roman Catholic parents from sending their children to the schools supported by the state, the Pope virtually enjoins parents to send their children to such schools rather than have them go without an education equal to that which the public schools provide.

It is a cause for deep satisfaction to know that the Roman Catholic Church, which includes several millions of American citizens in its membership, has withdrawn its opposition to the free public schools. They are the foundation of American liberty, and on their steadfast maintenance the future of the Republic is chiefly dependent. The American people are deeply attached to the public school system, and in recognizing that fact with its inevitable conclusions Pope Leo has given another illustration of the progressive and enlightened character which has raised him to a high place among modern statesmen as well as modern churchmen.

Our Democratic contemporary which shines for all displays surprising meekness in discussing Mr. CLEVELAND's attempt to take the election of the Senator from New York out of the hands of the Democratic party. In former days no gross violation of precedent and political propriety on the part of Mr. CLEVELAND would have called forth from our contemporary a degree of censure which nothing but the most scorching superlatives in the English language could have expressed. Yet now its severest condemnation of the course of the President-elect is found in the intimation that he has been "ill-advised."

AMONG the many hard nuts that have been given the Free-trade philanthropist to crack, about the toughest one is this from The American Economist: Who Pays the Duty on Tin Plates? The year which is now drawing to a close is leaving the Welsh tin-plate manufacturers much better than it found them. The result of there being a Democratic majority in the Electoral College has been to put new life into the trade. The general tone of the Principality is therefore decidedly more cheerful, and tin-plate prices have risen about three pence per box—Colliery Guardian, London, November 25th, 1892.

In Iron, another London paper, of November 18th, a series of interviews with different British traders was printed, and one of them was as follows: A leading ship owner states that the loss to his line in the exportation of tin plates has been enormous. All of the tin plates used to be sent from Liverpool. The export of tin plates has not fallen off, but they are now shipped from Cardiff, as the rates of the McKinley Tariff will not afford of their being sent by rail to be shipped by fast steamers.

Every one who has followed the course of prices in England knows that a good part of our duty was carried by the tin plate makers themselves, and it seems from the above quotation that the British railway and steamship companies carried another part of the duty they so much objected to. So that, as a matter of fact, any reduction of the present duty will amount to an increase in the profits of British railways and steamship owners, in addition to the benefit conferred on the Welsh tin plate makers.

The great advantage that will result to the Welshmen from our late change in policy is further set forth by The Colliery Guardian, as follows: While tin plate makers do not expect any early or indirect considerable relief, yet they anticipate that the weakening, to even a moderate extent, of the present Protectionist policy and the general uncertainty induced by the election about the future of American customs duties, will deter capitalists from embarking further in the manufacture of tin plates on the other side of the Atlantic.

It is pleasant to know that our visitors do not propose to "strangle the infant industry in its cradle," or at least they are not openly threatening it, as fifty or sixty years ago they threatened our cotton manufacturers. But we shall look with a great deal of interest to see if Mr. ROOSEVELT really comes over here and builds a tin-plate mill under an experiment of reduced duty, as he said he would.

The Guardian concludes that the Democratic party will modify the Tariff as to seriously impede the further expansion in the states of American competition with Welsh tin plates. In the interest of the Principality, we sincerely trust that such may be the result of the new departure of the political regime.

Now, we wish to ask any one to whom this copy of The Economist may come, why all England wishes to impede a further expansion of our competition with Welsh makers, if we pay the duty?

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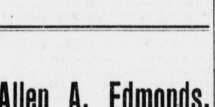
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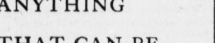
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